15: Bandelier E-4 (no date) 1880 NU7 Aztec NU7

428 their husbands. Single-blessedness, among the Mexicans, appears
[589 734] to have occurred only in case of religious vows, and in which case they fell back for subsistence, upon the part allotted to worship, or in case of great infirmities, for which the calpulli provided.[111] No mention is made of the widow participating in the products of the "tlalmilli," still it is presumable that she was one of those whom the oldest son had to support. There are indications that the
[587] widow could remarry, in which case her husband, of course, provided for her.[112]

428 764 The customs of Inheritance, as above reported, were the same with chiefs as well as with the ordinary members of the tribe. Of the personal effects very little remained since, the higher the office was which the deceased had held, the more display was made at his cremation, and consequently the more of his dresses, weapons and ornaments, were burnt with the body.[113] Of lands, the chiefs
428 only held each their "tlalmilli" in the usual way, as members of their kin, whereas the other "official" lots went to the new incumbents of the offices. It should always be borne in mind, that none of these offices were hereditary themselves. Still, a certain "right of succession" is generally admitted as having existed. Thus, with the Tezcucans, the office of head war-chief might pass from father to son,[114] at Mexico from brother to brother, and from uncle to nephew.[115] This might, eventually, have tended to *perpetuate* the

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[111] Such unmarried females were the "nuns" frequently mentioned by the old writers. We shall have occasion to investigate the point in our paper on "the ancient Mexican priesthood." As attendants to worship, they participated in the tributes furnished towards it by each calpulli, of which we have spoken.

[112] Oviedo ("Hist. gen. y nat de Indias," Lib. XXXIII, cap. LIV. pp. 347–353), reports a conversation with Don Juan Cano, held at San Domingo, 8 of Sept., 1514, in which the said Cano asserts that he married Montezuma's daughter, widow of Quauhtemotzin. There is an indefinite report that, when she married Quauhtemotzin, she was already the widow of Cuitlahuatzin. Intermarriage of widowers and widows took place in Yucatan, but without any ceremony. See Landa, "Relacion de las cosas de Yucatan." Paris, 1864, by Mr. Brasseur de Bourbourg, p. 142, §XXV.

[113] See note No. 108, the same quotations apply to this case. Besides, we refer to the numerous descriptions of funeral rites, or rather cremations, contained, for instance, in Durán, Tezozomoc, Ixtlilxochitl, Veytia, and in Bustamantes "Tezcoco en los Ultimos Tiempos, etc." Also to the cremation of the head chief of Michhuacan, as related by Mendieta (Lib. II, cap. XLI. pp. 164–167). We abstain from special quotations, the subject being amply discussed in all the authors just mentioned.

[114] Zurita (p. 12). Gomara (Vedia I, p. 434). Torquemada (Lib. IX, cap. IV. p. 477. Lib. XI, cap. 27, p. 536, etc. etc.).

[115] This fact is too amply proven to need special references. We reserve it for final discussion in our proposed paper on the chiefs of the Mexicans, and the duties, powers and functions of their office.